

April 23, 2007

**City of Milton-Freewater
City Council Minutes**

The Council of the City of Milton-Freewater met in regular session Monday, April 23, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Albee Room of the Library.

The following members were present: Mayor Lewis Key, Councilors Orrin Lyon, Ed Chesnut, Keith Woods, Debbie Kelley, Steve Irving and Brad Humbert.

Staff members present were City Manager Delphine Palmer, Assistant City Manager Linda Hall, Public Works Superintendent Dave Bradshaw and Police Chief Doug Boedigheimer.

Citizens present were Merle Sherman, Dick Cook and Christine Boedigheimer.

Press member present was Melanie Hall of the Valley Herald.

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH. Mayor Key proclaimed the month of April 2007 as Child Abuse Prevention Month and encouraged all citizens to become more aware of the negative effects of child abuse and how we can all help prevent child abuse in our communities.

Dick Cook, President of the Walla Walla Council for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, thanked the Mayor, Council and citizens of the City of Milton-Freewater for joining in this proclamation. Child Abuse Prevention Month began in 1983 by President Ronald Reagan. Since then, the issues surrounding child abuse and neglect are acknowledged each year. The proclamation stated there are approximately 1,100 children in the greater Walla Walla area which includes Milton-Freewater. These are the cases reported as abused and a few reported are not. But there are cases that are never reported. Also, as a part of Child Abuse Prevention Month, we remind ourselves there are approximately 1,200 preventable deaths to our youth each year. It is a community problem and Mr. Cook thanked everyone in the community that works with these problems, and then offered a special thanks for this evenings proclamation by the Mayor.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS: The consent calendar items consisted of minutes from the April 9, 2007 city council meeting. Councilor Chesnut motioned to adopt the consent calendar items. Councilor Humbert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

BID AWARD SUBSTATION CIRCUIT BREAKERS. Electric Superintendent Mike Charlo stated this request for bid award is to WESCO Distribution, Inc. of Spokane, Washington for the purchase of three, 15 kV, 1200 A. vacuum circuit breakers. Each one is about \$12,600, which is a good price. This bid would satisfy all the requirements, is the low bid, and the circuit breakers are the same brand as previously purchased. This is good for the lineman as well as the ability to have spare parts. One of the circuit breakers is to be installed in the Milton Substation. There is an empty bay that was built extra to become Feeder #6, which will provide electricity for the development of the South Hill area. The other two circuit breakers will be installed in the Freewater Substation on Cobb Road. They will replace two old circuit breakers that are in need of repair and showing their age.

The funds for the circuit breakers are budgeted in the FY 2008 budget, but there is a three to four month lead time for this item, which will be delivered after July and possibly as late as this fall. It is planned to install the circuit breaker in the Milton Substation first to get started on Feeder #6.

Councilor Humbert motioned to award bid to WESCO Distribution, Inc. for the purchase of three 15kV, 1200 A, vacuum circuit breakers and spare parts, for the total cost of \$39,300. Councilor Kelley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2041 AUTHORIZE SIGNATURE TO ODOT FUND AGREEMENT TO EXTEND EXPENDITURE OF PREVIOUSLY AWARDED GRANT FUNDS. Public Works Superintendent Dave Bradshaw said that 2005 funds were extended because there were additional funds not expended. An agreement was requested from the State of Oregon to allow the expenditure of these funds in the amount of \$26,725.29 for street improvements.

Councilor Kelley motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2041, authorizing signatures to Amendment No. 1 of the 2005 Fund Exchange Agreement No. 23,050. Councilor Humbert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mayor Key then announced this was the opportunity for citizens to approach the Council with issues not on this agenda. None approached.

MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Delphine Palmer said she continues her work with labor negotiations with the police bargaining unit.

Ms. Palmer stated she had attended the Governor's Conference on Tourism in Bend, Oregon this past week. There were over 400 individuals that attended the conference from all the cities throughout Oregon. Ms. Palmer said she was very proud of what our city has already done, because there was a discussion about the new trend for cities to develop a brand, which our City did two years ago. Ms. Palmer said we all get excited about our local wines and wineries, and it seemed that every city represented was excited about their wines and wineries. Tasting rooms and wineries are going up as fast in other cities as they are here. Another issued discussed in the demographics of tourism, was websites. Our City has a website, but just having a website is not enough. Cities need an interactive website now. The new groups of tourists are younger and more computer savvy. Local websites need blogs to interact with tourists interested in our city. Ms. Palmer continued saying she was still trying to obtain the camera at the skatepark with funds from the FY 2008 budget as this skatepark has become well-known. Professional skate boarders come from all over to skate here. Another issue talked about was the direction of technology and the new phones. Participants were encouraged to go home and research iPhones. These will be on the market about June of this year. These phones do everything. These phone not only have the abilities of today's cell phones, but also include GPS with screen, voice direction, television, internet and video instructions for each button. Ms. Palmer said the only thing she could not find in her research was the price.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Woods asked if the City was receiving 9-1-1 funds. Assistant City Manager Linda Hall stated this will be seen in the recently released Preliminary Budget books. The revenues are accounted for in a separate fund. About three years ago, city staff was required to totally separate these funds. They are coming in, but could not add them into the general fund. Councilor Kelley asked for clarification that the funds were actually being received into Milton-Freewater. Ms. Hall said they were late, but they are coming in and will be in by year end. Councilor Woods clarified saying he was asking about the cell phone 9-1-1 calls. Ms. Hall said she had heard of the \$0.50 per cell phone charge, but thought it was a Washington State revenue. Councilor Humbert stated that this was a Washington State regulation and fee. Councilor Woods asked about Vontage on the Internet. Ms. Hall and Councilor Humbert both stated there were no franchise fees on the internet. Ms. Hall said the airways cannot be regulated.

Councilor Woods said he thought a frog game on our website would be fun, such as clicking on a frog on a map and having the frog jump.

Councilor Irving asked about the restaurant at the golf course. Public Works Superintendent Dave Bradshaw said he would be bringing a contract for council's approval as soon as it is finalized. Ms. Hall said Chris Dirks was aiming for an opening between mid-May or June. Councilor Woods asked if they could do something as a council to expedite the process. Mr. Bradshaw said the authorization to negotiate the contract is already in place, and it is planned to have the contract at the May 14th meeting for approval. Ms. Palmer said the most significant issue is the large amount of equipment necessary to open. Ms. Hall said that between Ms. Palmer, Mr. Bradshaw and Mr. Dirks, these issues will be resolved so the vendor could be in the building prior to May 14th, but between attaining their liquor license, the contract and their insurance, the process will take time.

Councilor Chesnut reported he and Councilor Woods attended the Oregon League of Cities educational program and found the information to be good. It was labeled a "Government 101" course, so it was a broad overview of the basics, but it was helpful. Councilor Woods said he found it helpful as well and stated he found it interesting to attend this with his previous experience.

Councilor Kelley announced the Trilogy Town Hall Meeting every 4th Thursday of each month. These meetings are designed to be public discussion forums, and the first one will be hosted by Kathy Yancey, R.N. at St. Mary Medical Emergency department. Her discussion is titled "Over-the-Counter-and-in-the-Cupboard Drugs: A False Sense of Security." These meetings are designed to make people more aware of the problems we are facing in the community. The goal of the Trilogy Youth Center is to help recovering youth stay clean and sober. The program is for both the youth and their families. Kathy Ketchum is an author and founder of the Trilogy Youth Center.

Councilor Woods stated that he and Councilor Chesnut both attended the Highway 11 Corridor meeting, and said he felt this group is progressing forward. City Planner Gina Hartzheim and people from Umatilla County Planning department as well as the State of Oregon spoke at the meeting. County and State representatives both said they were open

to the process. Mayor Key said there has been direction from high levels of government to county and state leaders to make this happen, but it won't be a quick process. There may be some planning grants available, but this would make things happen maybe this fall. Councilor Chesnut stated the significant information will address what the existing land use is along the corridor independent of the zoning map. Councilor Woods said that John Zerba pointed out that a number of the parcels are zoned EFU, but since these parcels have not been farmed for a number of years, they probably do not have water rights. Councilor Kelley asked if there was good participation with business owners along the corridor. Councilor Chesnut said not a lot, but some were attending the meetings.

Councilor Lyon asked about the joint meeting with the school board. Ms. Palmer said she thought the school board was arranging this and Councilor Kelley said that dates were not available yet. Councilor Woods said he thought it would be this summer after their school year and budget process. After a brief discussion, it was determined to offer July 9th or 23rd as possible combined meeting dates to be hosted in the Albee Room during the regularly scheduled council meeting.

Council adjourned at 7:32 p.m. to executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d) To conduct deliberations with person designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations. Also pursuant to ORS 192.660(4) Representatives of the news media were not allowed to attend.

Council reconvened at 8:35 p.m. to take action.

Councilor Kelley moved to ratify the 2007 Supervisors and Technicians bargaining unit agreement recently negotiated. Councilor Chesnut seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Lewis S. Key, Mayor